3. A ſmall round thing, with ſome particular mark, by which votes are given, or lots caſt.

Let lots decide it.
For ev'ry number'd captive put a *ball*
Into an urn; three only black be there,
The reſt, all white, are ſafe. *Dryden's Don Sebaſtian.*

Minos, the ſtrict inquiſitor, appears;
Round in his urn the blended *balls* he rowls;
Abſolves the juſt, and dooms the guilty ſouls. *Dryden.*

4. A globe; as, the *ball* of the earth.

Julius and Antony, thoſe lords of all,
Low at her feet preſent the conquer'd *ball*. *Granville.*

Ye gods, what juſtice rules the *ball*?
Freedom and arts together fall. *Pope.*

5. A globe borne as an enſign of ſovereignty.

Hear the tragedy of a young man, that by right ought to hold the *ball* of a kingdom; but, by fortune, is made himſelf a ball, toſſed from miſery to miſery, and from place to place. *Bacon's Henry* VII.

6. Any part of the body that approaches to roundneſs; as the lower and ſwelling part of the thumb, the apple of the eye.

Be ſubject to no ſight but mine; inviſible
To every eye *ball* elſe. *Shakeſp. Tempeſt.*

To make a ſtern countenance, let your brow bend ſo, that that it may almoſt touch the *ball* of the eye. *Peacham.*

7. The parchment ſpread over a hollow piece of wood, ſtuffed with hair or wool, which the printers dip in ink, to ſpread it on the letters.

BALL. *n. ſ.* [*bal*, Fr. from *ballare*, low Lat. from βαλλίζω, to dance.] An entertainment of dancing, at which the preparations are made at the expence of ſome particular perſon.

If golden ſconces hang not on the walls,
To light the coſtly ſuppers and the *balls*. *Dryden.*

He would make no extraordinary figure at a *ball*; but I can aſſure the ladies, for their conſolation, that he has writ better verſes on the ſex than any man. *Swift.*

BA'LLAD. *n. ſ.* [*balade*, Fr.] A ſong.

Ballad once ſignified a ſolemn and ſacred ſong, as well as trivial, when Solomon's Song was called the *ballad* of *ballads*; but now it is applied to nothing but trifling verſe. *Watts.*

An' I have not *ballads* made on you all, and ſung to filthy tunes, may a cup of ſack be my poiſon. *Shakeſp. Henry* IV.

Like the ſweet *ballad*, this amuſing lay
Too long detains the lover on his way. *Gay's Trivia.*

To BA'LLAD. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To make or ſing ballads.

Saucy lictors
Will catch at us like ſtrumpets, and ſcall'd rhimers
Ballad us out o' tune. *Shakeſp. Antony and Cleopatra.*

BA'LLAD-SINGER. *n. ſ.* [from *ballad* and *ſing*.] One whoſe employment it is to ſing ballads in the ſtreets.

No ſooner 'gan he raiſe his tuneful ſong,
But lads and laſſes round about him throng.
Not *ballad-ſinger*, plac'd above the crowd,
Sings with a note ſo ſhrilling, ſweet and loud. *Gay.*

BA'LLAST. *n. ſ.* [*ballaſte*, Dutch.]

1. Something put at the bottom of the ſhip to keep it ſteady to the center of gravity.

There muſt be ſome middle counſellors to keep things ſteady; for, without that *ballaſt*, the ſhip will roul too much. *Bacon's Eſſays.*

As for the aſcent of it, this may be eaſily contrived, if there be ſome great weight at the bottom of the ſhip, being part of its *ballaſt*; which, by ſome cord within, may be looſened from it. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*

As when empty barks or billows float,
With ſandy *ballaſt* ſailors trim the boat;
So bees bear gravel ſtones, whoſe poiſing weight
Steers through the whiſtling winds their ſteddy flight. *Dryd.*

2. That which is uſed to make any thing ſteady.

Why ſhould he ſink where nothing ſeem'd to preſs?
His lading little, and his *ballaſt* leſs. *Swift.*

To BA'LLAST. *v. a.* [from the noun.]

1. To put weight at the bottom of a ſhip, in order to keep her ſteady.

If this ark be ſo *ballaſted*, as to be of equal weight with the like magnitude of water, it will be moveable. *Wilkins's Mathematical Magick.*

2. To keep any thing ſteady.

Whilſt thus to *ballaſt* love, I thought,
And ſo more ſteddily t' have gone,
I ſaw, I had love's pinnace overfraught. *Donne.*

Now you have given me virtue for my guide,
And with true honour *ballaſted* my pride. *Dryden's Aureng.*

BALLE'TTE. *n. ſ.* [*ballette*, Fr.] A dance in which ſome hiſtory is repreſented.

BA'LLIARDS. *n. ſ.* [from *ball* and *yard*, or ſtick to puſh it with.] A play at which a ball is driven by the end of a ſtick; now corruptly called *billiards*.

With dice, with cards, with *halliards*, far unfit,
With ſhuttlecocks miſbeeming manly wit. *Hubberd's Tale.*

BA'LLISTER. See BALUSTRE.

BA'LLO'N. } *n. ſ.* [*ballon*, Fr.]
BALLO'ON. }

1. A large round ſhort-necked veſſel uſed in chymiſtry.
2. In architecture; a ball or globe placed on the top of a pillar.
3. In fireworks; a ball of paſteboard, ſtuffed with combuſtible matter, which, when fired, mounts to a conſiderable height in the air, and then burſts into bright ſparks of fire, reſembling ſtars.

BA'LLOT. *n. ſ.* [*ballote*, Fr.]

1. A little ball or ticket uſed in giving votes, being put privately into a box or urn.
2. The act of voting by ballot.

To BA'LLOT. *v. n.* [*balloter*, Fr.] To chooſe by ballot, that is, by putting little balls or tickets, with particular marks, privately in a box; by counting which it is known what is the reſult of the poll, without any diſcovery by whom each vote was given.

No competition arriving to a ſufficient number of balls, they fell to *ballot* ſome others. *Watton.*

Giving their votes by *balloting*, they lie under no awe. *Swift.*

BALLOTA'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *ballot*.] The act of voting by ballot.

The election is intricate and curious, conſiſting of ten ſeveral *ballotations*. *Watton.*

BALM. *n. ſ.* [*baume*, Fr. *balſamum*, Lat.]

1. The ſap or juice of a ſhrub, remarkably odoriferous.

Balm trickles through the bleeding veins
Of happy ſhrubs, in Idumean plains. *Dryden's Virgil.*

2. Any valuable or fragrant ointment.

Thy place is filled, thy ſceptre wrung from thee;
Thy *balm* waſh'd off wherewith thou waſt anointed. *Shakeſp. Henry* VI.

3. Any thing that ſooths or mitigates pain.

You were conducted to a gentle bath,
And *balms* apply'd to you. *Shakeſp. Macbeth.*

Your praiſe's argument, *balm* of your age;
Deareſt and beſt. *Shakeſp. King Lear.*

BALM. } *n. ſ.* [*meliſſa*, Lat.] The name of a plant.
Balm *Mint*. }

It is a verticillate plant, with a labiated flower, conſiſting of one leaf, whoſe upper lip is roundiſh, upright, and divided into two; but the under lip, into three parts: out of the flower-cup riſes the pointal, attended, as it were, with four embryos; theſe afterwards turn to ſo many ſeeds, which are roundiſh, and incloſed in the flower-cup; to theſe notes may be added, the flowers are produced from the wings of the leaves, but are not whorled round the ſtalks. The ſpecies are, 1. Garden *balm*. 2. Garden *balm*, with yellow variegated flowers. 3. Stinking Roman *balm*, with ſofter hairy leaves. The firſt of theſe ſorts is cultivated in gardens for medicinal and culinary uſe: it is propagated by parting the roots either in ſpring or autumn. When they are firſt planted, if the ſeaſon proves dry, you muſt carefully water them until they have taken root. *Miller.*

Balm *of Gilead*.

1. The juice drawn from the balſam tree, by making inciſions in its bark. Its colour is firſt white, ſoon after green; but when it comes to be old, it is of the colour of honey. The ſmell of it is agreeable, and very penetrating; the taſte of it bitter, ſharp and aſtringent. As little iſſues from the plant by inciſion, the *balm* ſold by the merchants, is made of the wood and green branches of the tree, diſtilled by fire, which is generally adulterated with turpentine. *Calmet.*

It ſeems moſt likely to me, that the zori of Gilead, which we render in our Engliſh bible by the word *balm*, was not the ſame with the balſam of Mecca, but only a better ſort of turpentine, then in uſe for the cure of wounds and other diſeaſes. *Prideaux's Connection.*

2. A plant remarkable for the ſtrong balſamick ſcent, which its leaves emit, upon being bruiſed; whence ſome have ſuppoſed, erroneouſly, that the *balm of Gilead* was taken from this plant. *Miller.*

To BALM. *v. a.* [from *balm*.]

1. To anoint with balm.

Balm his foul head with warm diſtilled waters,
And burn ſweet wood. *Shakeſp. Taming of the Shrew.*

2. To ſooth; to mitigate; to aſſuage.

Oppreſt nature ſleeps:
This reſt might yet have *balm'd* thy ſenſes,
Which ſtand in hard cure. *Shakeſp. King Lear.*

BA'LMY. *adj.* [from *balm*.]

1. Having the qualities of balm.

Soft on the flow'ry herb I found me laid,
In *balmy* ſweat; which with his beams the ſun
Soon dry'd. *Milton's Paradiſe Loſt, b.* viii.

2. Producing balm.
3. Soothing; ſoft; mild.

Come, Deſdemona, 'tis the ſoldier's life
To have their *balmy* ſlumbers wak'd with ſtrife. *Shak. Othello.*

Such viſions hourly paſs before my ſight,
Which from my eyes their *balmy* ſlumbers fright. *Dryden.*

4. Fragrant; odoriferous.

Thoſe rich perfumes which, from the happy ſhore,
The winds upon their *balmy* wings convey'd,
Whoſe guilty ſweetneſs firſt the world betray'd. *Dryden's Juvenal.*

Firſt Eurus to the riſing morn is ſent,
The regions of the *balmy* continent. *Dryden's Ovid.*

5. Mitigating; aſſuaſive.

Oh *balmy* breath, that doſt almoſt perſuade
Juſtice to break her ſword! *Shakeſp. Othello.*

BA'LNEARY. *n. ſ.* [*balnearium*, Lat.] A bathing-room.

The *balnearies*, and bathing-places, he expoſeth unto the ſummer ſetting. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* vi. *c.* 7.

BALNEA'TION. *n. ſ.* [from *balneum*, Lat. a bath.] The act of bathing.

As the head may be diſturbed by the ſkin, it may the ſame way be relieved, as is obſervable in *balneations*, and fomentations of that part. *Brown's Vulgar Errours, b.* ii. *c.* 6.

BA'LNEATORY. *adj.* [*balneatorius*, Lat.] Belonging to a bath or ſtove.

BA'LOTADE. *n. ſ.* The leap of an horſe, ſo that when his fore-feet are in the air, he ſhews nothing but the ſhoes of his hinder-feet, without yerking out. A *balotade* differs from a capriole; for when a horſe works at caprioles, he yerks out his hinder legs with all his force. *Farrier's Dict.*

BA'LSAM. *n. ſ.* [*balſamum*, Lat.] Ointment; unguent; an unctuous application thicker than oil, and ſofter than ſalve.

Chriſt's blood's our *balſam*; if that cure us here,
Him, when our judge, we ſhall not find ſevere. *Denham.*

BALSAM *Apple*. [*momordica*, Lat.] An annual Indian plant.

The flower conſiſts of one leaf, is of the expanded bell-ſhaped kind, but ſo deeply cut, as to appear compoſed of five diſtinct leaves: the flowers are ſome male, or barren; others female, growing upon the top of the embryo, which is afterwards changed into a fruit, which is fleſhy, and ſometimes more or leſs tapering and hollow, and, when ripe, uſually burſts, and caſts forth the ſeeds with an elaſticity; which ſeeds are wrapped up in a membranous covering, and are, for the moſt part, indented on the edges. *Millar.*

BALSAM *Tree*.

This is a ſhrub which ſcarce grows taller than the pomegranate tree; it ſhoots out abundance of long ſlender branches, with a few ſmall rounding leaves, always green; the wood of it is gummy, and of a reddiſh colour; the bloſſoms are like ſmall ſtars, white, and very fragrant; whence ſpring out little pointed pods, incloſing a fruit like an almond, called carpobalſamum, as the wood is called xylobalſamum, and the juice opobalſamum; which ſee. This tree is cultivated in Arabia and Judea; but it is forbid to be ſown or multiplied without the permiſſion of the grand ſignior. *Calmet. Chambers.*

BALSA'MICAL. } *adj.* [from *balſam*.] Having the qualities of
BALSA'MICK. } balſam; unctuous; mitigating; ſoft; mild; oily.

If there be a wound in my leg, the vital energy of my ſoul thruſts out the *balſamical* humour of my blood to heal it. *Hale's Origin of Mankind.*

The aliment of ſuch as have freſh wounds ought to be ſuch as keeps the humours from putrefaction, and renders them oily and *balſamick*. *Arbuthnot on Diet.*

BA'LUSTER. *n. ſ.* [according to *du Cange*, from *balauſtrium*, low Lat. a bathing place.] A ſmall column or pilaſter, from an inch and three quarters to four inches ſquare or diameter. Their dimenſions and forms are various; they are frequently adorned with mouldings; they are placed with rails on ſtairs, and in the fronts of galleries in churches.

This ſhould firſt have been planched over, and railed about with *baluſters*. *Carew's Survey of Cornwal.*

BA'LUSTRADE. *n. ſ.* [from *baluſter*.] An aſſemblage of one or more rows of little turned pillars, called baluſters, fixed upon a terras, or the top of a building, for ſeparating one part from another.

BAM, BEAM, being initials in the name of any place, uſually imply it to have been woody; from the Saxon beam, which we uſe in the ſame ſenſe to this day. *Gibſon's Camden.*

BA'MBOO. *n. ſ.* An Indian plant of the reed kind. It has ſeveral ſhoots, much larger than our ordinary reeds, which are knotty, and ſeparated from ſpace to ſpace by joints. They are ſaid by ſome, but by miſtake, to contain ſugar; the *bamboo* being much larger than the ſugar-cane. The leaves grow out of each knot, and are prickly. They are four or five inches long, and an inch in breadth, ſomewhat pointed, and ribbed through the whole length with green and ſharp fibres. Its flowers grow in ears, like thoſe of wheat.

To BAMBO'OZLE. *v. a.* [a cant word not uſed in pure or in grave writings.] To deceive; to impoſe upon; to confound.

After Nick had *bamboozled* about the money, John called for counters. *Arbuthnot's John Bull.*

BAMBO'OZLER. *n. ſ.* [from *bamboozle*.] A tricking fellow; a cheat.

There are a ſet of fellows they call banterers and *bamboozlers*, that play ſuch tricks. *Arbuthnot's John Bull.*

BAN. *n. ſ.* [*ban*, Teut. a publick proclamation, as of proſcription, interdiction, excommunication, publick ſale.]

1. Publick notice given of any thing, whereby any thing is publickly commanded or forbidden. This word we uſe eſpecially in the publiſhing matrimonial contracts in the church, before marriage, to the end that if any man can ſay againſt the intention of the parties, either in reſpect of kindred or otherwiſe, they may take their exception in time. And, in the canon law, *banna ſunt proclamationes ſponſi & ſponſæ in eccleſiis fieri ſoliti*. *Cowel.*

I bar it in the intereſt of my wife;
'Tis ſhe is ſubcontracted to this lord,
And I her huſband contradict your *bans*. *Shakeſp. King Lear.*

Our *bans* thrice bid! and for our wedding-day
To draw her neck into the *bans*. *Hudibras.*

2. A curſe; excommunication.

My kerchief bought! then preſs'd, then forc'd away! *Gay.*

In th' interim, ſpare for no trepans
Thou mixture rank of midnight weeds collected,
With Hecate's *ban* thrice blaſted, thrice infected. *Hamlet.*

A great overſight it was of St. Peter, that he did not accurſe Nero, whereby the pope might have got all; yet what need of ſuch a *ban*, ſince friar Vincent could tell Atafalipa, that kingdoms were the pope's. *Raleigh's Eſſays.*

3. Interdiction.

Much more to taſte it, under *ban* to touch. *Parad Loſt.*

4. *Ban of the Empire*; a publick cenſure by which the privileges of any German prince are ſuſpended.

He proceeded ſo far by treaty, that he was proferred to have the imperial *ban* taken off Altapinus, upon ſubmiſſion. *Howel.*

To BAN. *v. a.* [*bannen*, Dut. to curſe.] To curſe; to execrate.

Shall we think that it *baneth* the work which they leave behind them, or taketh away the uſe thereof. *Hooker, b.* v.

It is uncertain whether this word, in the foregoing ſenſe, is to be deduced from *ban*, to curſe, or *bane*, to poiſon.

In thy cloſet pent up, rue my ſhame,
And *ban* our enemies, both mine and thine. *Shakeſp. H.* VI.

Before theſe Moors went a Numidian prieſt, bellowing out charms, and caſting ſcrowls of paper on each ſide, wherein he curſed and *banned* the Chriſtians. *Knolles's Hiſt. of the Turks.*

BANA'NA *Tree*. See PLANTAIN; of which it is a ſpecies.

BAND. *n. ſ.* [*bende*, Dut. band, Saxon.]

1. A tye; a bandage; that by which one thing is joined to another.

You ſhall find the *band*, that ſeems to tie their friendſhip together, will be the very ſtrangler of their amity. *Shakeſp. Antony and Cleopatra.*

2. A chain by which any animal is kept in reſtraint. This is now uſually ſpelt, leſs properly, *bond*.

So wild a beaſt, ſo tame ytaught to be,
And buxom to his *bands*, is joy to ſee. *Hubberd's Tale.*

Since you deny him ent'rance, he demands
His wife, whom cruelly you hold in *bands*. *Dryd. Aurengz.*

3. Any means of union or connexion between perſons.

Here's eight that muſt take hands,
To join in Hymen's *bands*. *Shakeſp. As you like it.*

4. Something worn about the neck; a neckcloth. It is now reſtrained to a neckcloth of particular form worn by clergymen, lawyers, and ſtudents in colleges.

For his mind I do not care,
That's a toy that I could ſpare:
Let his title be but great,
His cloaths rich, and *band* fit neat. *Ben Jahriſon's Underwoods.*

He took his preſent lodging at the manſion-houſe of a taylor's widow, who waſhes and can clear-ſtarch his *bands*. *Addiſon.*

5. Any thing bound round another.

In old ſtatues of ſtone in cellars, the feet of them being bound with leaden *bands*, it appeared that the lead did ſwell. *Bacon.*

6. A company of perſons joined together in any common deſign.

And, good my lord of Somerſet, unite
Your troops of horſemen with his *bands* of foot.
Shakeſp. Henry VI *p.* i.

We few, we happy few, we *band* of brothers. *Sh. H.* V.

The queen in white array before her *band*,
Saluting took her rival by the hand. *Dryden's Fables.*

On a ſudden, methought this ſelect *band* ſprang forward, with a reſolution to climb the aſcent, and follow the call of that heavenly muſick. *Tatler*, N° 81.

Strait the three *bands* prepare in arms to join,
Each *band* the number of the ſacred Nine. *Pope.*

7. In architecture. Any flat low member or moulding, called alſo faſcia, face, or plinth.

To BAND. *v. a.* [from *band*.]

1. To unite together into one body or troop.

The biſhop, and the duke of Glo'ſter's men,
Have fill'd their pockets full of pebble ſtones,
And *banding* themſelves in contrary parts,
Do pelt at one another's pates. *Shakeſp. Henry* VI. *p.* i.

Some of the boys *banded* themſelves as for the major, and others for the king; who, after ſix days ſkirmiſhing, at laſt made a compoſition, and departed. *Carew's Survey of Cornwal.*

To live exempt
From heav'n's high juriſdiction, in new league
Banded againſt his throne. *Milton's Par. Loſt, b.* ii.

2. To bind over with a band.

And by his mother ſtood an infant lover,
With wings unfledg'd, his eyes were *banded* over. *Dryden.*

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